

REMARKS

Specification

Applicant has amended the specification for style and to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Claims

Claims 1 to 20 were pending when last examined. Applicant has canceled claims 1 and 2, amended claims 3, 5 to 7, 9 to 17, and 18 to 20, and added claims 21 to 29.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)/(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent nos. 5,913,759 ("Boström"), 4,445,684 ("Ruff"), and 5,137,504 ("Mangini"), and U.S. patent publication no. 2004/0162572 ("Reitz et al."). Applicant has canceled claims 1 and 2, thereby rendering their rejections moot.

Claim 3 is indicated by the Examiner as allowable if amended to independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 3 as suggested by the Examiner, and therefore claim 3 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 4 to 10 depend from claim 3 and therefore are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 3.

Claim 11 is indicated by the Examiner as allowable if amended to independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 11 as suggested by the Examiner, and therefore claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 12, 13, and 15 to 20 depend from claim 11, and therefore are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 11.

Claim 14 is indicated by the Examiner as allowable if amended to independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 14 as suggested by the Examiner, and therefore claim 14 is in condition for allowance.


New claims

New claims 21 to 24 depend from claim 3, and therefore are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 3.

New claims 25 and 26 depend from claim 11, and therefore are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 11.

New claims 27 to 29 depend from claim 14, and therefore are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 14.

Claims 1 to 20 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined. This Response cancels claims 1 and 2, amends claims 3, 5 to 7, 9 to 17, and 18 to 20, and adds claims 21 to 29. For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 3 to 29. Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480.

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Respectfully submitted,



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